

**Microcassette™-corder**

# M-330/440V/550V

## Operating Instructions

Before operating the unit, please read this manual thoroughly and retain it for future reference.

Sony Corporation Printed in Japan © 1989

## Owner's Record

The model number is located on the bottom and the serial number is located in the battery compartment. Record these numbers in the spaces provided below. Refer to them whenever you call upon your Sony dealer regarding this product.

Model No. \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

This instruction manual covers M-330, M-440V and M-550V. Their differences are shown in the table below.

|        | VOR<br>switch   | Tape<br>counter | BATT<br>indicator | MIC<br>jack     | Hand<br>strap   | Microcassette<br>tape |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| M-330  | Not<br>provided | Not<br>provided | Not<br>provided   | Not<br>provided | Not<br>supplied | Supplied              |
| M-440V | Provided        | Not<br>provided | Not<br>provided   | Not<br>provided | Supplied        | Not<br>supplied       |
| M-550V | Provided        | Provided        | Provided          | Provided        | Supplied        | Not<br>supplied       |

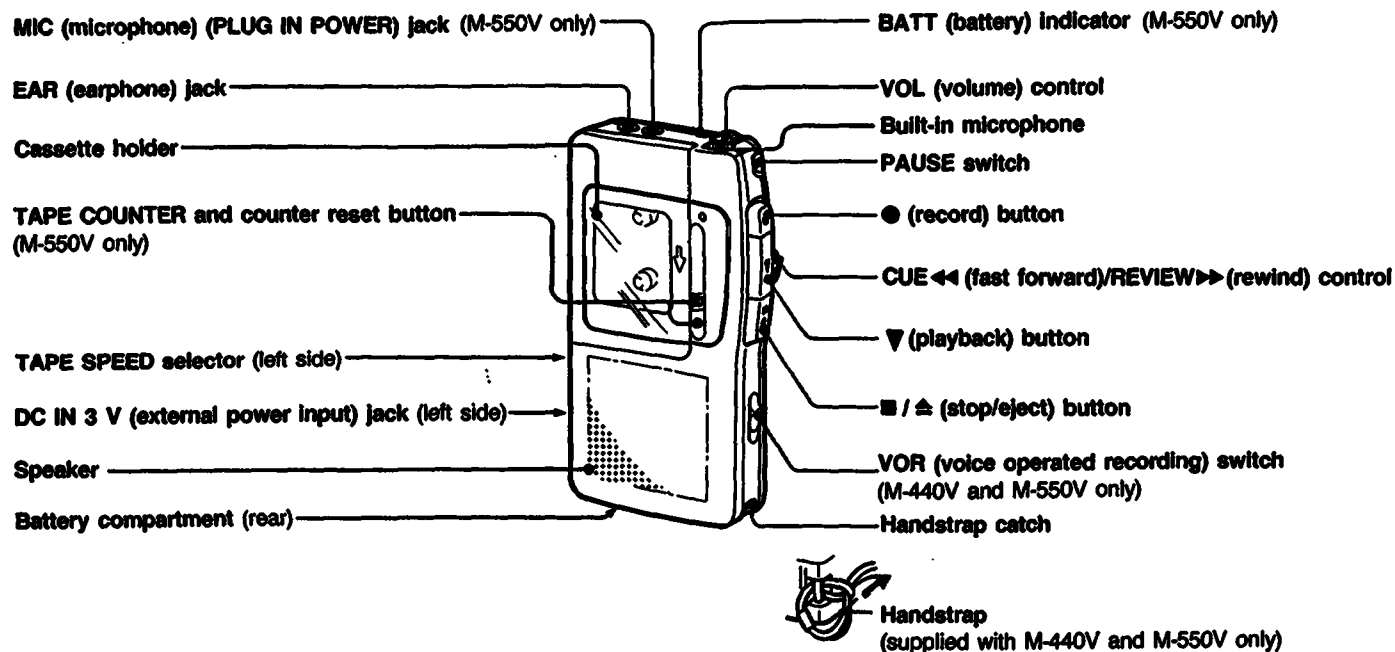
## Features

- Compact size and easy operation
- VOR (voice operated recording) system (M-440V and 550V only) economizes on tapes, batteries and your time.
- You can start recording directly from the playback mode. This function is convenient to correct a previously recorded portion.
- Automatic shut-off mechanism

### What is VOR (voice operated recording) system?

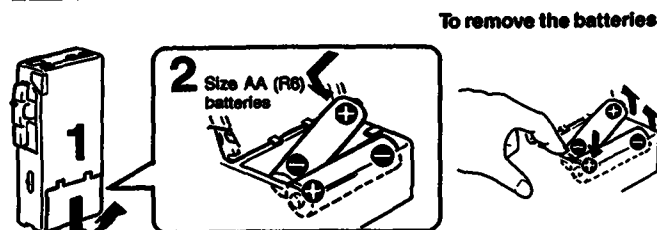
With this system, recording starts only when sound is picked up and stops automatically when sound is no longer detected.

# Parts Identification



The illustration of M-550V

## Battery Installation

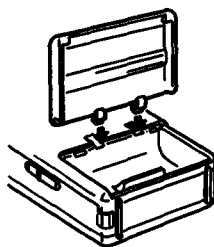


### When to replace the batteries

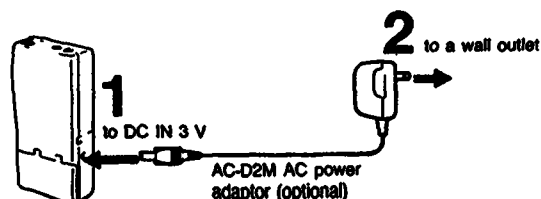
When the batteries become weak, the BATT indicator will glow faintly (M-550V only) and sound will become distorted or unstable. In this case, replace both batteries with new ones. For battery life, see "Specifications".

### Note on the battery case

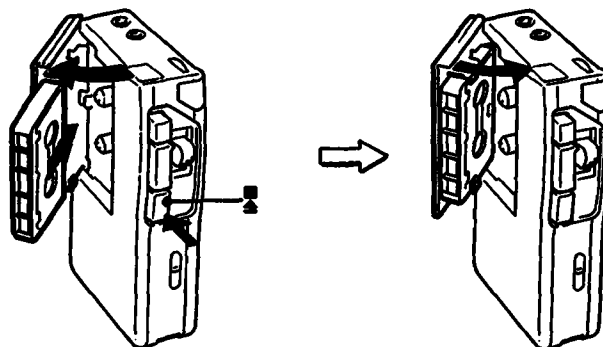
If the battery compartment lid is detached by an accidental drop, excessive force etc., attach it as illustrated.



## House Current Operation

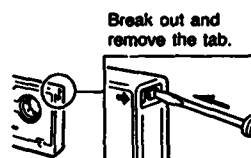


## Cassette Insertion

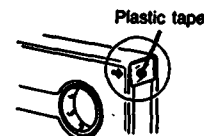


## Notes on Microcassette

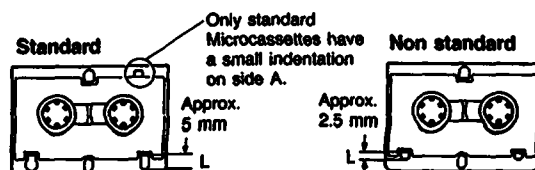
To protect cassettes from accidental erasure



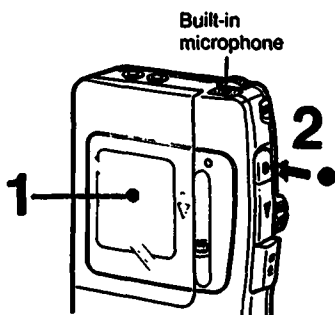
To reuse a cassette Cover the slot with plastic tape.



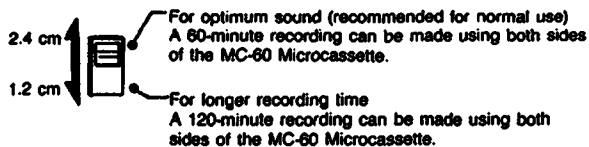
This unit uses only standard Microcassettes. Non standard cassettes cannot be used because their "L" dimension (see illustration) is different.



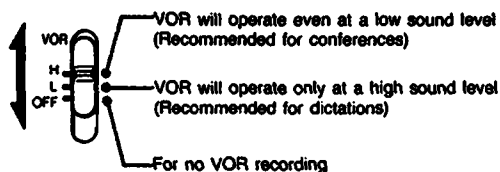
## Recording with the Built-in Microphone



### To select the desired tape speed



### Recording only when sound is picked up (VOR system) (M-440V and 550V only)



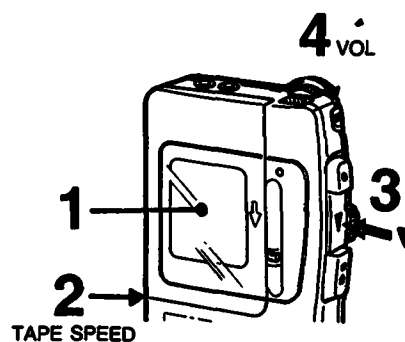
### Quick review function

Simply push up the CUE ◀◀ /REVIEW ▶▶ control towards REVIEW ▶▶ while recording. When the control is released, playback begins for review of the recorded material.

### To listen to the recorded sound

You can listen to the sound being recorded through the earphone (optional). (You cannot adjust the monitor volume.)

## Playback



TAPE SPEED

The same tape speed as that used for recording.

To rapidly advance the tape, slide the CUE ◀◀ /REVIEW ▶▶ control to ◀◀ CUE.

To rewind the tape, slide the CUE ◀◀ /REVIEW ▶▶ control to REVIEW ▶▶.

When the earphone is plugged in The speaker is automatically disconnected.

### To skip over or repeat a certain portion during playback

Keep the CUE ◀◀ /REVIEW ▶▶ control pushed up or down with the ▼ button depressed. When the control is released, playback begins.

### To start recording directly from playback mode

During playback, simply depress the ● button and the recorder will immediately change to the recording mode.

### To stop the tape

Press the ■ / △ button.

### To stop the tape momentarily in the playback or recording mode

Slide the PAUSE switch in the direction of the arrow.

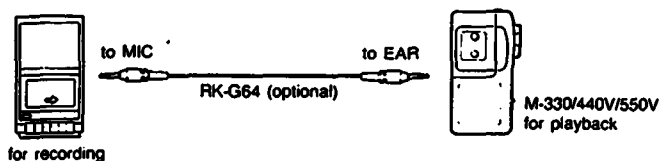
### At the end of the tape

In recording or playback mode, tape stops at the end of the tape and the locked button will be released automatically (Automatic shut-off mechanism.)

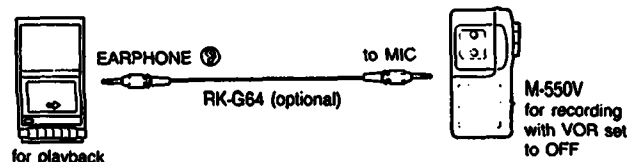
After advancing or rewinding the tape until its end, be sure to press the ■ / △ button to release the CUE ◀◀ /REVIEW ▶▶ control.

## Recording/Playback with Connected Equipment

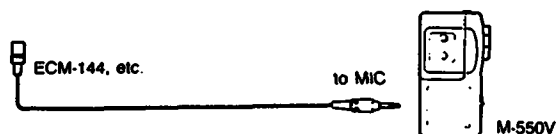
### Dubbing onto another tape recorder



### Recording from another tape recorder (M-550V only)



### Recording with an external microphone (M-550V only)



- The built-in microphone is automatically deactivated.
- When connecting an electret condenser microphone with "Plug-in power" system, the power is supplied from the MIC (PLUG IN POWER) jack of the M-550V, and you do not have to insert a battery in the microphone.

## Precautions

### On power sources

- Operate the unit only on 3V DC.  
For battery operation, use two size AA (R6) batteries.  
For AC operation, use the AC power adaptor recommended for this unit. Do not use any other type.
- When the internal batteries are not to be used, remove them to avoid damage caused by battery leakage and corrosion.

### On location

- Do not leave the unit in a location near heat sources, or in a place subject to direct sunlight, excessive dust, or mechanical shock.
- Since a strong magnet is used for the speaker, keep personal credit cards using magnetic coding or spring-wound watches away from the unit to prevent possible damage from the magnet.

### On operation

- If the unit has not been used for a long time, set it in the playback mode to warm it up for a few minutes before inserting a cassette.
- Should any solid object or liquid fall into the unit, remove the batteries or disconnect the AC power adaptor, and have the unit checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.
- Use only the (MICROCASSETTE)<sup>™</sup> with this unit.
- Two tape speeds can be selected for recording with the TAPE SPEED selector: 2.4 cm or 1.2 cm.  
Match the playback speed to the recording speed.  
Select the 2.4cm tape speed for recording, if you play back the recorded tape with another unit. Otherwise, the sound quality may be changed.

If you have any question or problem concerning your unit that is not covered in this manual, please consult the nearest Sony dealer.

## Specifications

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tape                     | (MICROCASSETTE) <sup>™</sup> (normal position type)                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Recording system         | 2-track 1-channel monaural                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Speaker                  | Approx. 4 cm (1 5/8 inches) dia.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Tape speed               | 2.4 cm/s (1 1/16 ips), 1.2 cm/s (1 1/32 ips)                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Frequency response       | 250 - 4,000 Hz (at 2.4 cm position)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Input (M-550V only)      | Microphone jack (minijack) (PLUG IN POWER)<br>sensitivity 0.4 mV for 3 kilohm or lower impedance microphone                                                                                                                                                         |
| Output                   | Earphone jack (minijack) for 8-300 ohm earphone                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Power output             | 150 mW (at 10 % harmonic distortion)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Battery life (recording) | Sony SUM-3 (NS): Approx. 6 hours<br>Sony AM3 (N): Approx. 18 hours                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Power requirements       | 3 V DC, two size AA (R6) batteries<br>DC IN 3V jack accepts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sony AC-D2M AC power adaptor (optional) for use on 120 V AC, 60 Hz</li> <li>• Sony DCC-70 car battery cord (optional) for use with 12V car battery</li> </ul> |
| Dimensions               | Approx. 67.5 x 124 x 27 mm (w/h/d)<br>(2 3/4 x 5 x 1 1/8 inches) incl. projecting parts and controls                                                                                                                                                                |
| Weight                   | Approx. 180 g (6.4 oz.) incl. batteries                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Accessory supplied       | Handstrap (1, M-440V and 550V only)<br>Microcassette tape (1, M-330 only)                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Design and specifications subject to change without notice.

## Optional accessories

Microcassette MC-30, MC-60, 3MC-60  
Earphone ME-81, ME-L82  
Connecting cord RK-G64 (miniplug to miniplug with attenuator)  
Electret condenser microphone (for M-550V only) ECM-144, etc.  
AC power adaptor AC-D2M  
Car battery cord DCC-70

Note: Use only the recommended AC power adaptor or car battery cord manufactured by Sony. Polarity of the plugs of other manufacturers may be different.

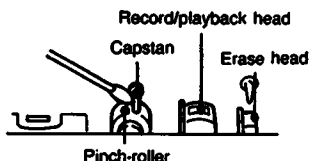


Polarity of the Sony plug

## Maintenance

### Cleaning the heads

Clean the tape heads after every 10 hours of use to enjoy optimum sound. Moisten a cotton swab or a soft cloth with alcohol and wipe the parts shown in the illustration.



### Cleaning the casing

Clean the casing with a soft cloth slightly moistened with water or a mild detergent solution. Do not use alcohol, benzine or thinner as they may mar the finish.

## Troubleshooting Guide

Should any problem persist after you have made these checks, consult your nearest Sony service facility.

| Trouble                                                             | Cause and/or remedy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cassette cannot be inserted.                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cassette is inserted improperly. See "Cassette Insertion".</li> <li>• The ▼ button is depressed.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                   |
| The ● button cannot be depressed.                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No cassette in the cassette holder</li> <li>• The cassette inserted has had the tabs removed. See "Cassette Insertion".</li> </ul>                                                                                            |
| The ● or ▼ button cannot be locked.                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tape is completely rewound towards the arrow direction on the cassette holder.</li> <li>• After the automatic shut-off, the PAUSE switch is on. Slide the PAUSE switch in the opposite direction of the arrow.</li> </ul> |
| The ● or ▼ button is locked, but playback/recording does not start. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slide the PAUSE switch in the opposite direction of the arrow.</li> <li>• Incorrect polarity of batteries</li> <li>• Weak batteries</li> </ul>                                                                                |
| No sound from the speaker                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The earphone is plugged in</li> <li>• The VOL control is turned down completely</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                    |
| Weak or distorted sound                                             | Weak batteries                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Sound drop-outs, loss of high frequencies, or excessive noise       | Dirty heads. See "Maintenance"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Tape speed is excessively fast or slow while playing back.          | Improper setting of the TAPE SPEED selector                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Recording cannot be made or is unsatisfactory.                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weak batteries</li> <li>• Dirty record/playback head. See "Maintenance".</li> <li>• Improper setting of the VOR switch (M-440V and M-550 only). Set it to "H" or "OFF".</li> </ul>                                            |
| Unsatisfactory erasing                                              | Dirty erase head. See "Maintenance".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## LIMITED WARRANTY

SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA ("SONY") warrants this product against defects in material or workmanship, as follows:

1. For a period of 90 days from the date of retail purchase, SONY shall at its sole and absolute option either repair the defective product at no charge or replace the defective product with the same model or its equivalent model at no charge through a SONY SERVICE CENTER.

To obtain warranty service during the initial 90-day period, you must take the product, or deliver the product prepaid, to one of the SONY SERVICE CENTERS located in the United States.

2. After the initial 90-day period, SONY will supply, at no charge, new or rebuilt replacements for defective parts for a period of 1 year from the date of retail purchase.

Labor for removal and installation of these parts is available from your SONY authorized service facility or SONY SERVICE CENTER, at your expense.

Proof of purchase in the form of a bill of sale or receipted invoice, which indicates that the product is within the warranty period, must be presented to obtain warranty service. SONY suggests that the purchaser retain the dealer's dated bill of sale as evidence of the date of retail purchase.

This warranty does not cover cosmetic damage, and damage to any part of the product, including the antenna, which results from acts of God, accident, misuse, abuse, improper maintenance, or connection to an improper voltage supply.

This warranty is valid only if the serial number appears on the product. This warranty is valid only in the United States of America.

REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE CONSUMER. SONY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY ON THIS PRODUCT. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. In addition, if you enter into a service contract with the Sony Partnership within 90 days of the date of sale, the limitation on how long an implied warranty lasts does not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Please refer to the list of SONY SERVICE CENTERS for the SONY SERVICE CENTER nearest you.

For your convenience, Sony Corporation of America has established the Customer Information Center to supply you with product or service information.

**SONY CUSTOMER INFORMATION CENTER**  
201-930-SONY (7669)

or write to

**SONY CUSTOMER INFORMATION CENTER**  
Sony Drive, Mail Drop M-1  
Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656

**SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA**  
Sony Drive, Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656

### Sony Service Centers

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Arizona</b><br>Phoenix<br>2240 North Scottsdale Road<br>Tempe, AZ 85281<br>(602) 948-7669                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Hawaii</b><br>Honolulu<br>890 Maunapuna Street<br>Honolulu, HI 96819<br>(808) 834-6822                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Missouri</b><br>St. Louis<br>12482-D Natural Bridge Road<br>Bridgeton, MO 63044<br>(314) 291-2201                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>California</b><br>Burbank (Los Angeles area)<br>2820 West Olive Avenue, Suite B<br>Burbank, CA 91505<br>(818) 842-7668<br>Costa Mesa (Orange County area)<br>2729 Bristol Street South<br>Costa Mesa, CA 92626<br>(714) 549-4833<br>San Bruno (San Francisco area)<br>751 Camino Plaza<br>San Bruno, CA 94066<br>(415) 871-2610<br>San Diego<br>8875 Camplax Drive<br>San Diego, CA 92123<br>(619) 279-2724<br>San Jose<br>1359 Old Oakland Road<br>San Jose, CA 95112<br>(408) 280-7669 | <b>Illinois</b><br>Niles (Chicago NW)<br>7540 Caldwell Avenue<br>Niles, IL 60068<br>(312) 847-2400<br>Westmont (Chicago SW)<br>6038 38 South Cass Avenue<br>Westmont, IL 60559<br>(312) 968-0049<br>Kansas<br>Kansas City<br>1712 West 95 Street<br>Overland Park<br>KS 66214<br>(913) 888-2622<br>Maryland (Washington D.C.)<br>Washington D.C.<br>1258 Holton Lane<br>Langley Park, MD 20783<br>(301) 439-3500/01 | <b>New Jersey</b><br>Englewood Cliffs (N.Y. Metro. area)<br>41 Sylvan Avenue<br>Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632<br>(201) 569-1974<br>Mahwah (N.Y. Metropolitan Area)<br>388 Route 17 South<br>Mahwah, NJ 07430<br>(201) 529-1655<br>Ohio<br>Cleveland<br>6370 York Road<br>Painesville, OH 44130<br>(216) 845-7669<br>Pennsylvania<br>Philadelphia<br>10360 Drummond Road<br>Philadelphia, PA 19154<br>(215) 637-0850-1<br>Pittsburgh<br>Westford Plaza<br>10610 Perry Highway (Rt. 194)<br>Westford, PA 15090<br>(412) 935-8466<br>Texas<br>Dallas<br>401 Preston Valley Shopping Center<br>Dallas, TX 75230<br>(214) 661-3537<br>Houston<br>5747 Richmond Avenue<br>Houston, TX 77057<br>(713) 783-8761<br>Washington<br>Seattle<br>515 South Michigan Street<br>Seattle, WA 98108<br>(206) 762-6500 |
| <b>Colorado</b><br>Denver<br>Havens Place Center<br>10740 East Ruff Avenue<br>Aurora, CO 80014<br>(303) 755-7669<br>Florida<br>Fort Lauderdale<br>3904 North 29th Avenue<br>Hollywood, FL 33020<br>(305) 920-5600<br>Georgia<br>Atlanta<br>120 Interstate North Parkway East<br>Suite 410<br>Atlanta, GA 30339<br>(404) 953-5871                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Massachusetts</b><br>Boston<br>380 University Avenue<br>128 Westwood Industrial Center<br>Westwood, MA 02090<br>(617) 328-5130<br>Michigan<br>Detroit<br>24301 Indoplex Circle<br>Farmington Hills, MI 48018<br>(313) 477-1900<br>Minnesota<br>Minneapolis<br>4300 W. 38th Street<br>St. Louis Park, MN 55416<br>(612) 920-8000                                                                                  | <b>Texas</b><br>Dallas<br>401 Preston Valley Shopping Center<br>Dallas, TX 75230<br>(214) 661-3537<br>Houston<br>5747 Richmond Avenue<br>Houston, TX 77057<br>(713) 783-8761<br>Washington<br>Seattle<br>515 South Michigan Street<br>Seattle, WA 98108<br>(206) 762-6500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

### Sony District Service Offices

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Western Zone</b><br>Western District<br>Sony Service Company<br>2729 Bristol Street South<br>Costa Mesa, CA 92626<br>(714) 549-4836<br>Northwestern District<br>Sony Service Company<br>1359 Old Oakland Road<br>San Jose, CA 95112<br>(408) 280-7675<br>Southwestern District<br>Sony Service Company<br>2701 W. Airport Freeway, Suite 112<br>Irving, TX 75062<br>(214) 258-1187 | <b>Central Zone</b><br>Mid West District<br>Sony Service Company<br>7540 Caldwell Avenue<br>Niles, IL 60068<br>(312) 847-2424<br>East Central District<br>Sony Service Company<br>24301 Indoplex Circle<br>Farmington Hills, MI 48018<br>(313) 477-4805 | <b>Eastern Zone</b><br>Eastern District<br>Sony Service Company<br>388 Route 17 South<br>Mahwah, NJ 07430<br>(201) 529-1616<br>Mid Atlantic District<br>Sony Service Company<br>10360 Drummond Road<br>Philadelphia, PA 19154<br>(215) 637-7957<br>Southeastern District<br>Sony Service Company<br>3904 North 29th Avenue<br>Hollywood, FL 33020<br>(305) 920-5655 |
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(215) 637-0850-1

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